

Rural Hill

PRESENTS...

Bring your class out to Rural Hill for a day of fun and excitement they'll be sure to remember! Explore and learn about our 265 acre property on a guided tour, stopping along the way to see gardens, historic structures, and our ever popular herd of Highland Cattle, Bubba, Queenie, Dolly, and new arrival Fiona!



Your class will then be delighted to see how the Davidson family lived in the eighteenth century, when there were no stores or electricity for miles around. The class will witness candlemaking, fire by flint and steel, and, weather permitting, fire by glass. Wrap up your tour with a hayride or picnic lunch under the pecans!

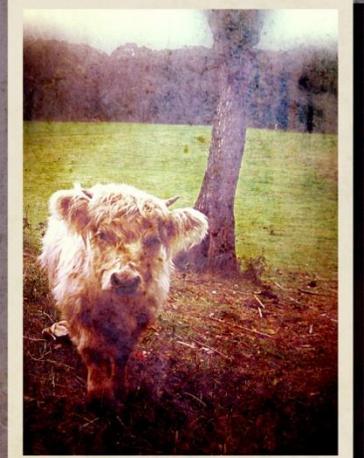
LIGHT AND HEAT

IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY



CONTACT INFORMATION

Rural Hill
4431 Neck Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
Education Manager: Zac Vinson
zac@ruralhill.net
704-875-3113 phone
704-875-3193 fax
www.ruralhill.net



Teachers:

It means so much to us here at Rural Hill that you are considering coming to our world. We know that both your and their time is precious. If there is anything that we can do to make your trip more enjoyable and / or informative please do not hesitate to let us know. While our programs are designed to fall directly in line with NC Essential Standards and Common Core teachings, most programs' content can and will be adjusted to suit your class' grade level. Please take the time to review the following materials, which serve as an introduction to your trip and program. Again, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Thank you so much,



Zac Vinson
Director of Education,
Historic Rural Hill
zac@ruralhill.net
704 875 3113

Rural Hill is an historic site, working farm, and educational venue operated by Historic Rural Hill, a non-profit 501c-3 through a lease with Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation. With over two hundred and fifty years of history behind it, Rural Hill is a restoration in progress. Enjoy two hundred sixty five acres of magnificent rural vistas, a variety of farm animals and wildlife, a wooded trail that encircles the property, and our historic buildings and reconstructions. With eleven structures in all, we have the perfect setting to provide cultural heritage events, educational programs, self guided or guided tours, and so much more! We welcome all visitors and students to Rural Hill, where history springs

DIRECTIONS:

From I-77 North:

From I-77 North take Exit 16B, Sunset Road West, traveling 0.2 miles. Merge onto Sunset Road and travel 0.6 miles. Turn Right onto Beatties Ford Road. After traveling 6.5 miles turn Left onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

From I-77 South:

From I-77 South take the Exit 23, Gilead Road toward Huntersville, traveling 0.3 miles. Turn Right onto Gilead Road and travel 0.6 miles. Turn Left onto McCoy Road and continue onward for 1.7 miles. Take a Right turn onto Hambright Road, traveling 1.6 miles, then turn Right onto Beatties Ford Road. After 0.7 miles, turn left onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

From NC-73 West:

From NC-73 West turn Left onto Beatties Ford Road, continuing 3.6 miles. Turn Right onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

From NC-73 East:

From NC-73 East turn Right onto Beatties Ford Road, continuing 3.6 miles. Turn Right onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

BEFORE YOU COME:

Please review the following reminders and recommendations prior to your departure:

- Please complete the group registration form [here](#) and email or fax back to Rural Hill. This will confirm your reservation on our calendar. *Do not worry about pre-payment unless it is easier for you to pre-pay.*
- Unless stated otherwise, programs are \$5 per student. One adult per 10 students is required and free. Each additional adult is \$5.

- Groups of fewer than 15 participants will be required to pay a minimum amount of \$75.
- Please review the page entitled “*Site Etiquette*” with your students prior to arriving to Rural Hill and ensure that they understand what is expected of them.
- We would like you to arrive about 10 minutes early to allow the students plenty of time to check in and group themselves away from the bus(es).
- *Rural Hill is open all year in all weather.* If there are concerns regarding inclement weather and your group, please call ahead to let us know whether you are coming or rescheduling.
- Please ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the outdoors and the weather at hand. Being one of Mecklenburg County’s most open and highest elevations, Rural Hill is naturally windy. Because of this, it can feel 10-15 degrees cooler here than where you are. Our historic buildings have no climate control measures, if it is cold outside, it will be cold inside. *Please dress appropriately.*
- The maximum number of students per program session is 30. If there is more than this, your group will be divided into two or more groups. As one group enjoys the educational program, the other group(s) will be led on a nature hike, scavenger hunt, or other appropriate activity.

SITE ETIQUETTE:

Rural Hill has over two hundred and fifty years of history on site and the staff here have the obligation to protect it for the future. Please abide by the following written rules as well as any verbal instructions our staff may provide to you during your stay. Students who fail to follow these rules may be separated from the group, asked to hold a teacher / parent’s hand, and / or made to leave the site. We request that you obey these rules and honor us as much as we honor your group for spending time with us.

- I. Rural Hill is a working farm. This means live animals and working machines / tools. Please do not chase, yell at, hit, or throw anything at or to the animals. Do not offer the animals any food unless instructed to do so. Please do not climb on or touch any piece of farm equipment. If a staff member or your teacher tells you to stop, STOP.
- II. Do not climb on, touch, step, or jump over wire fences: They are electric and WILL SHOCK.

- III. Be aware that many of the things in and around our buildings are very old and fragile. Do not touch or pick up anything unless you are told its okay.
- IV. For the safety of our guests, do not climb on, in, or jump off any part of our buildings.
- V. Please keep any and all trash on your person until you can locate a proper receptacle. **DO NOT LITTER.**
- VI. No food, drink, or gum is allowed inside any of the buildings. Please finish all snacks prior to entering or leave them outside.
- VII. The entirety of Rural Hill is a Non-Smoking site due to the dry and combustible nature of our land, crop, and buildings.

Light and Heat in the Eighteenth Century:

Featured NC Essential Standards

Social Studies:

Strand of Main Focus:

History: K - 8

Touched Upon Strands:

Geography and Environmental Literacy: K - 5, 8

Economics and Financial Literacy: K - 1, 3

Civics and Governance: 3

Science: K - 6

Featured NC Common Core Standards

Literacy in History / Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

Reading Standards for Literature

Key Ideas and Details: K - 5

Craft and Structure: K - 1

Range of Reading / Level of Text Complexity: K

Reading Standards for Informational Text

Key Ideas and Details: K - 5

Craft and Structure: K - 5

Integration of Knowledge / Ideas: K - 5

Range of Reading / Level of Text Complexity: K - 5

Reading Standards: Foundational Skills

Print Concepts: K - 5

Phonological Awareness: K - 5

Phonics and Word Recognition: K - 5

Fluency: K - 5

Primary Sources

Upon the scheduling of a field trip, teachers will be provided with materials excerpted from the book Colonial Living, by Edwin Tunis, pp. 41-43, 133-134

We find that this material is a very effective way of expanding upon the knowledge that the students will receive while here. For their convenience, suggested questions will also be provided to the teacher to review with their students.

Time Required:

Allow 60-90 minutes for activity per group.

Location:

Rural Retreat Cabin

Materials

(for demonstration purposes only)

Flint

Steel

Tinder

Heart Pine or Cedar

Betty or Grease Lamp

Candle Molds

Bee's Wax

Wax Pot

Activity

Life for Eighteenth Century North Carolinians wasn't easy. Responsibility of one's own actions had perhaps a much greater meaning than it does today. If one let the hearth fire go out at night, one's family would have no ready supply of warmth in the morning. Worse still, if materials were not

kept ready for making and keeping fire, one's already limited supply of food would be useless, as one would have no way to cook it. If candles, grease lamps, and other light producing materials were not continually made and kept, one would have no light during the winter months, when windows were tightly shuttered to keep out the cold, making the cabins as dark as pitch throughout the day.

Obviously fire and the light and heat that it provided were very important to the early Americans. With this program, students will see not only how early North Carolinians made and kept fire, used oil / grease lamps, but also how they made one of their most prized commodities: candles. Along the way they will also witness several very important scientific principles at work. In addition to an in depth farm and garden tour, Rural Hill staff will demonstrate fire building, striking flint and steel to create a fire, the use of eighteenth century technology to contain fire for light and heat, and candle making using period appropriate means.

Payments

Payments can be made by check via mail or at time of program. Prepayment is not necessary, only if it is more convenient to you to do so. To make a major credit card payment, (Master Card, Visa, Amex) please call Mark at 704 875 3113

If you choose to cancel your educational program please call us at 704 875 3113. If you cancel with less than 10 business days remaining until your previously scheduled program's date, a \$75 administrative fee will be charged.

Payment by Check:

Make checks payable to: *Historic Rural Hill, PO Box 1009, Huntersville, NC 28070-1009*